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7. A security system as claimed in claim 6 wherein the controller also provides for control of home automation functions.

8. A security system as claimed in claim 7 wherein the display means is a LCD or LED display capable of displaying graphical data.--

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 4 to 8 now stand in the application. Reconsideration and re-examination of the application based on the following remarks is respectfully requested.

As requested by the Examiner, claim 4 has been amended to be dependent from claim 1 rather than from itself.

The Examiner had rejected original claims 1 and 2 as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Humphries and Moderi. The Examiner was of the view that Humphries taught that the system was controllable by touching a portion of the screen, having the component of the security system. The Examiner was of the view that Humphries failed to disclose a touch sensitive screen with a graphical representation of the security system. However, Moderi et al describes a touch sensitive screen with a graphical representation on the screen. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

While Humphries describes a controller for controlling the operation of a security system, Humphries' controller does not provide for a touch sensitive screen, nor is one able to touch a portion of the screen having the component of the security system thereon. As shown in figure 15 and described in column 14, line 50, the keypad for the security system is a typical keypad having a LCD display for providing instructions to the user and physical buttons on the keypad with an associated LED that is lit to provide feedback to the user. The keypad contains the numeral buttons 0 through 9 as well as certain hot buttons. Similarly, the controller of Humphries for the home automation system is shown in figures 18 and 20 and described beginning in column 16, line 29. Once again, this keypad has a LCD display for displaying alpha

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numeric characters and a number of physical buttons assigned to functions of the automation controller.

Moderi describes a point of sale register system for entering and tabulating customer orders where the point of sale registers are provided with a touch screen having a plurality of keys, each being associated with a label of a saleable item or category of saleable items. This point of sale system is also provided with an access control system whereby users of the system have to sign in utilizing a swipe card and/or password entry system. There is no teaching however, of utilizing the touch sensitive screen of Moderi in a security system, nor is there any teaching which would have led one of skill in the art to substitute the controller of Humphries with the touch sensitive point of sale register of Moderi.

In the interest of expediting allowance of the application, claim 1 of the present application has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of the granted European Patent by specifying that the controller interacts with the control panel to control operation of the security system and that the controller also provides for selection and display of user selectable information not related to the operation of the security system and provided to the control panel by an external data access provider. This is in part the limitation of previous claim 3, which had been rejected along with claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Humphries et al and Moderi et al in view of Mahoney et al. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

As set out above, Humphries discloses a controller for controlling a security or home automation system having a LCD display and a number of physical buttons for selecting specified functions of the security system. Moderi et al describes a point of sale system having a touch sensitive for selecting the items for sale. Mahoney et al describes a corporation information delivery system having databases storing research reports produced by and received electronically from brokerage firms. A user may connect to the databases through a webserver accessible via the internet. As the user has access to the internet, the user would also have access to other types of information, such as news reports, press releases, weather reports, sports and news. However, as set out in Mahoney et al, in column 6, beginning on line 24, each user has a user computer, such as a personal computer with an Intel Pentium processor and a fast modem that the

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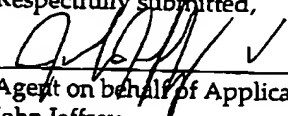
user can use to connect to the internet. This is described also in column 11, beginning in line 41. It is respectfully submitted that the teaching of Mahoney et al would not lead one of skill in the art to provide for a capability of a controller for a home security system to access an external data access provider to allow the controller to display information not related to the operation of the security system selected by the user of the security system. There is no teaching in the combination of Humphries et al, Moderi et al and Mahoney et al which would lead one of skill in the art to this controller. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103 be withdrawn.

At this time, applicant has also inserted new claims 5 to 8 directed to security systems having a plurality of detection devices and a controller connected to a control panel, the control panel having the means for connecting to an external data access provider for providing user selectable information not related to the operation of the security system. This information is capable of being displayed on a controller, which controls the operation of the security system, as well as displaying this user selectable information. These claims which correspond to those of the granted European Patent are supported in the application in the description of the security system beginning in page 3, line 28 and illustrated in figure 1, as well as the description of the controller beginning on page 4, line 16 and illustrated in figure 2 and the description of the data access provider as described beginning in page 6, line 31 amongst others.

CONCLUSION

In view of all the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is allowable and early allowance is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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THE EMBODIMENTS IN THE INVENTION IN WHICH AN EXCLUSIVE
PROPERTY OR PRIVILEGE IS CLAIMED ARE DEFINED AS FOLLOWS:

1. A controller for controlling the function of
5 components of a security system comprising a touch
sensitive screen with a graphical representation of the
security system and the components displayed on the
screen, the controller interacting with a control panel
to control operation of the security system, the function
10 of the components of the security system being
controllable by touching a portion of the screen having
the component or security system to be controlled
displayed thereon, the controller also providing for,
selection and display of user selectable information not
15 related to the operation of the security system and
provided to the control panel by an external data access
provider.

2. A controller as claimed in claim 1 wherein the
20 controller also provides for control of home automation
functions by providing a display of the environment
conditions capable of being controlled in the home
automation functions.

A2 25 4. A controller as claimed in claim 4 wherein the user
selectable information is one or more items selected from
the group consisting of weather information, news
reports, sports information, and financial information.

A3 30 5. A security system comprising a plurality of
detection devices and a controller connected to a control
panel, the control panel having a means for connecting to
an external data access provider for providing user
selectable information not related to the operation of
35 the security system, the controller having an input means
for inputting data in response to prompts, and a display
means for displaying at least a number of alphanumeric
characters, the controller interacting with the control
panel to control operation of the security system and

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display the user selectable information provided to the control panel by the external data access provider.

6. A security system as claimed in claim 5 wherein the user selectable information is one or more items selected from the group consisting of weather information, news reports, sports information, and financial information.

7. A security system as claimed in claim 6 wherein the controller also provides for control of home automation functions.

8. A security system as claimed in claim 7 wherein the display means is a LCD or LED display capable of displaying graphical data.